

OCALA EVENING STAR

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OCALA, FLORIDA, MONDAY, DECEMBER 7, 1908.

Fifty Cents a Month; \$5 a Year

THURSDAY

December 10

Marks
the
opening
of
the
great

MILL END SALE

—AT—

THE GLOBE

THE BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY
OF A LIFETIME

ACROSS THE OKLAWAHA

Between the Romantic River and the Historic St. Johns is Situated the Forest Reserve of Florida

Washington, D. C., Dec. 7.—To Florida goes the distinction of getting the first national forest created east of the Mississippi river. President Roosevelt has just signed a proclamation setting aside and naming the Ocala National Forest in Marion county in eastern Florida and another proclamation creating the Dakota National Forest in Billings county, North Dakota. Inasmuch as the last named national forest is the first in North Dakota, the two proclamations add two more states to the list of those wherein land will be put under scientific forest administration. There are now nineteen states, and Alaska, having national forests.

Before the creation of the Ocala, in Florida, the two forests in Arkansas, the Ozark and the Arkansas were the easternmost national forests. Practically all the other national forests are in the Rocky Mountain and Pacific Coast states. The Florida forest has an area of 201,480 acres, of which about one-fourth has been taken up under various land laws. It covers a plateau between the St. Johns and Oklawaha rivers and at no point is an elevation exceeding 150 feet above sea level obtained. The area is by nature better fitted for the production of forest growth than for any other purpose. Nearly all of the area, however, seems particularly well adapted to the growth of sand pine, which is even now replacing the less valuable species. The long-leaf pine, a much more valuable commercial tree than the sand pine, appears rather sparsely on this forest and is confined principally to the lower flat lands along the streams on the borders of the forest.

In addition to the pines and scrub growths, bald cypress, cabbage palmetto and tupelo gum, gradually changing to water oak, ash, elm, magnolia, hickory and maple are found bordering the numerous ponds and lakes which are scattered abundantly throughout the confines of this forest.

Fire has played a very important part in bringing about the present poorly forested condition of the Ocala, as year after year large fires have burned uninterruptedly over this tract, killing all vegetation and consuming the humus of the soil. Naturally protected portions which have not been subject to flames, prove positively however, that the soil will rapidly respond to a little care taking and that the prevention of fires would eventually mean the reforestation of practically the entire area.

No sawmill operations have been included in the Ocala National Forest. Turpentine being is carried on over contiguous areas and through the careless and antiquated methods used the future pine crop of the adjoining region is greatly jeopardized. The soil is of little value for agricultural purposes and about the only crop which can be produced that will be of lasting value is sand pine, and with proper care and attention there should in time be a valuable forest of this species.

The new Dakota national forest consists of 14,080 acres in the Bad Lands region. It is located in Billings county and lies an equal distance between the Northern Pacific railroad on the north and the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul on the south. Its creation is important for it means that an experimental field for forest planting has been secured in North Dakota, the least forested state in the Union, having only one per cent of tree growth. The forest service expects to establish forest nurseries with the hope that in time to come the area may be reforested by artificial means. This feature is expected to prove a very good object lesson to the settlers, who, it is hoped will in turn plant windbreaks around their farms.

Both of the new national forests, the Ocala in Florida and the Dakota, will be put under administration by the forest service as soon as possible.

MAGOON WILL SUCCEED WRIGHT

Washington, D. C., Dec. 7.—General Luke E. Wright, the present secretary of war, will continue in that position in President Taft's cabinet until the end of next year. Then he will retire and will be succeeded by Chas. E. Magoon, now provisional governor of Cuba. After relinquishing the latter office, Governor Magoon will go on a tour of inspection of the Philippines and on his return will succeed to his new post. The United Press is in a position to state that this program has been definitely decided upon.

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A BRILLIANT INAUGURATION

Will Commence Gilchrist's Term as Governor of Florida—Broward Has Made Good, and is Yet a Force in State Politics.

Tallahassee, Fla., Dec. 7.—With an unusually impressive and brilliant inaugural ceremony Governor-elect Albert W. Gilchrist will take the oath of office on Monday, Jan. 4th, when the four years' administration of Gov. N. B. Broward will come to an end. Large delegations will be present from Tampa and Jacksonville and other cities, and the event will be one of the most notable in the history of the state capital.

It was a Tampa newspaper that first brought out General Gilchrist as a candidate for the gubernatorial chair, and it was Tampa that gave him one of the largest majorities received in any city in the state in the spring primaries. And so the citizens of that city are preparing to send an especially large representation to the inaugural event. A special train will be run from the South Florida metropolises.

Jacksonville is also planning to be well represented, but no definite arrangements have yet been made for a special train. Large parties will attend from all of the other larger cities of the state and from the nearby towns.

The governor-elect is still a bachelor, despite the efforts of the state press to have a third primary held for the purpose of choosing a bride for the "gentleman from DeSoto." His beloved mother will preside over the governor's mansion as the first lady of the state. He has many friends throughout the state who believe that he will fill the responsible position to which he has been elected in a manner fully in keeping with the best interests of the state.

Governor Broward brings to a close one of the most eventful administrations since Florida entered statehood. Chosen from among many strong candidates, the former tugboat captain has practically made good every promise made in his campaign. He will do a great deal within the next thirty days to carry out his Everglades drainage plans and his success in this direction is a matter of pride with his friends.

The governor will move back to Jacksonville when his term expires as that is his old home and will probably return to his tugboat business, as he has retained it throughout his term of office. What his further business plans are is not yet known.

Those who are up on state politics know that there are already whisperings in the air that portend a very strong fight two years from now against Senator Tallaferra being returned to the senate, and it is confidently expected by the friends of the governor that he will be a strong candidate in the race. After a comparatively short fight in the spring primaries he was defeated for the senate, but he made a remarkably game fight and no one who is acquainted with him well believes that he is down and out so far as Florida politics are concerned.

Governor Broward is scheduled to deliver an address before the National Rivers and Harbors Congress at the coming session this week. United States Senator Duncan U. Fletcher, who is one of the most polished and eloquent speakers in the state, will be in attendance at the Southern Commercial Congress as a member of the delegation sent by the Jacksonville Board of Trade to look after the interests of Florida.

Senator Fletcher will take his seat in the senate at the coming session, and so will be seen at many national gatherings in the interest of his state, but the appearance of Governor Broward before the National Rivers and Harbors Congress is the last before a national gathering during his present term of office.

MORE BAD LUCK

FOR THE YANKEE

New Bedford, Mass., Dec. 6.—The United States cruiser Yankee, while on the way to this port under tow, after being successfully floated yesterday, from the Hen and Chickens reef, sank again this morning in forty-one feet of water of the lee shore of Pennikese Island. Commander Marsh and his crew of 75 wreckers were taken off by tugs and brought here. Chief Engineer Witherspoon insisted on remaining on board with 6 men but when the ship finally went down he had to flee to the forward rigging from which he was taken with great difficulty. The vessel was sunk by the blowing out of an air yort which permitted the flooding of the compartment containing three giant air compressors. The vessel lies easily on an even keel and can be saved. The trouble was caused by heavy seas.

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